

Message Text

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16

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

IO-10 /070 W

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P 311023Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9509

C O N F I D E N T I A L HELSINKI 2772

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PDIP, PGOV, FI

SUBJECT: GUIDANCE ON EMBASSY RELATIONS WITH FCP REPRESENTATIVES

REF: STATE 215429

1. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE ON RELATIONS BETWEEN EMBASSY AND REPRESENTATIVE OF FINNISH COMMUNIST PARTY (FCP). THERE ARE FOUR MINISTERS IN PRESENT FINNISH GOVERNMENT WHO FCP MEMBERS.

2. IN VIEW OF DECEMBER 30 FLOR LEWIS NYT ARTICILE (CARRIED WIRELESS FILE) CLAIMING THAT " AMERICAN POLICY IS TO DEAL WITH COMMUNIST PARTIES ONLY WHEN THEY HAVE COME TO POWER AND IT IS UNAVOIDABLE..." AND ALSO "AMERICAN DIPLOMATS ARE UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO AVOID ALL BUT MINIMAL, RELATIVELY LOW-LEVEL CONTACTS WITH THE MAJOR WESTERN COMMUNIST PARTIES," EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'SGUIDANCE ON HOW IT SHOULD CONDUCT ITS RELATIONS WITH FINNISH COMMUNIST PARTY-- WHICH NOW HOLDS 4 OF 18 CABINET POST IN FIVE-PARTY COALITION GOVERNMENT FORMED NOVEMBER 30.

3. EMBASSY HAS HAD VERY LITTLE CONTACT WITH REPRESENTA-TIVES OF FCP IN THE PAST. IT HAS BEEN NORMAL EMBASSY PRACTICE THAT COMMUNISTS ALSO BE INVITED TO SOME OFFICIAL FUNCTION WHEN FCP PARTICIPATING IN GOVERNMENT (AS WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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LAST THE CASE BETWEEN 1966 AND 1971), BUT IN THIER

CAPACITY AS MINISTERS RATHER THAN FCP REPRESENTATIVES.
STANDING CURRENT POLICY GUIDANCE (SEE REFTTEL) CALLS FOR
EMBASSY TO "MAINTAIN RELATIONS WITH ALL FINNISH POLITICAL
PARTIES."

4. AMBASSADOR WILL HOST CULTURAL PRESENTATION RECEPTION
AT RESIDENCE ON JANUARY 14, AND NORMAL PRACTICE WOULD
CALL FOR ALSO EXTENDING INVITATION TO FCP MEMBER
MINISTER OF CULTURE KIVISTO, SINCE OTHER MINISTERS
ARE INVITED. EMBASSY IS NOT SUGGESTING ANY CHANGE
IN POLICY GUIDANCE ON THIS POINT, BUT IN VIEW
OF JANUARY 14 EVENT WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION THAT
IT STILL VALID.
HOUSTON

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Message Attributes

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